

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 VALLET 00810 021255Z

53

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 AF-10 DRC-01 /140 W

----- 006796

R 021210Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5503

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

SMISSION NATO 1518

USDOCOSOUTH BT

C O N F I D E N T I A L VALLETTA 00810

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGSAI PFOR, MARR, MT, UK

SUBJ: BRITISH DEFENSE REVIEW AND MALTA

REF: VALLETTA 0783 (NOTAL)

1. BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER, DURING FAREWEL IALL N
AMBASSADOR MAY 2, SAID THAT HIS LAST DAYS IN MALTA HAVE BEEN DISTURBED
BY MINTOFF'S INCREASING CONCERN OVER
IMPLICATIONS FOR MALTA OF BRITISH DEFENSE REVIEW.

2. CONFIRMING THAT SUBJECT WAS NOT DISCUSSED IN LONDON
DURING MINTOFF'S RECENT VISIT, MORETON SAID PRESS PUBLICITY
SINCE THAT VISIT HAS APPARENTLY ALARMED MINTOFF SUFFICIENTLY
TO PROVOKE HIM INTO SEEKING ASSURANCES FROM UKG THAT
MALTA WILL NOT BE AFFECTED. MORETON IS SEEKING
APPOINTMENT WITH MINTOFF TODAY TO PASS ON LATEST MESSAGE
FROM LONDON WHICH STATES THAT UUG VERY MUCH AWARE OF
DEFENSE AGREEMENT AND BRITAIN'S INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS,
BUT GIVES NO COMMITMENTS WHICH WOULD PREJUDICE THE REVIEW.

3. MORETON DOES NOT EXPECT MINTOFF TO BE REASSURED BY
THIS MESSAGE. MORETON ALSO POINTS OUT THAT LORD CARRINGTON'S
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 VALLET 00810 021255Z

PRIVATE ASSURANCES TO MINTOFF THAT BRITISH FORCES WOULD

BE MAINTAINED ON MALTA AT APPROXIMATELY SAME LEVEL AS
BEFORE SIGNING DEFENSE AGREEMENT PROBABLY WILL NOT BE
CONSIDERED A COMMITMENT BY THE LABOR GOVERNMENT.

4. COMMENT: IT APPEARS THAT WE WILL HAVE A VERY NERVOUS
MINTTFF UNTIL DEFENSE REVIEW IS COMPLETED. CAN LONDON
PROVIDE ANY ESTIMATE AS TO HOW LONG THIS MIGHT TAKE?
GETZ

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY CAPABILITIES, MILITARY PLANS, MILITARY AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974VALLET00810
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740105-0389
From: VALLETTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740578/aaaacsbx.tel
Line Count: 69
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: VALLETTA 0783 (NOTAL)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 MAY 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <17 JAN 2003 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BRITISH DEFENSE REVIEW AND MALTA
TAGS: PFOR, MARR, MT, UK
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005